GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2816
ANSWERED ON:21.03.2005
POLICY FOR INCREASING AGRICULTURAL AREA UNDER IRRIGATION
Jatiya Dr. Satyanarayan

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the policy, assistance and programme of the Government for increase in agricultural area under irrigation;

(b) the details of targets and achievements set for agricultural production in the current Five Year Plan in context of prominent grains like oilseeds, pulses etc.; and

(c) the details of the action plan to achieve the targets for present irrigated area and for increase in irrigated area by the end of the current Five Year Plan, State-wise?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA):

(a) Irrigation development, planning, execution and funding of irrigation projects are carried out by the State Governments. However, for early completion of ongoing major and medium irrigation projects, Government of India provides Central Loan Assistance (CLA) to the State Government under the Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP) since 1996-97 through the Ministry of Water Resources. Central Loan Assistance under AIBP is also provided for minor irrigation schemes of the special category States comprising of North Eastern States and Sikkim, the Hilly States of Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and Uttaranchal as well as the drought prone Kalahandi, Bolangir and Koraput districts of Orissa with effect from 1999-2000. AIBP has been modified from April 2004 to provide central assistance in the form of 70% loan and 30% grant for non-special category States and 10% loan and 90% grant for special category States. Besides, a Central Sector Scheme of `On -farm water management for increasing crop production in Eastern India` is also implemented in ten eastern States of Bihar, West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh (Eastern Part), Orissa, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Assam, Mizoram, Manipur and Arunachal Pradesh for exploitation of abundant surface and underground water. Under the Scheme, assistance is provided to farmers for the construction of shallow tube wells with pumps, low lift irrigation points, dug wells and pumpsets. The funding pattern of the scheme is 20:30:50 i.e. 20% of the project cost as beneficiaries1 contribution, 30% as grant from the Government of India and 50% as the bank loan. The scheme is implemented by National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) through banks in cooperation with concerned State Governments.

(b) The agricultural production are fixed annually. The targets and achievements of agricultural production during 2002-03 to 2004-05 of Tenth Five Year Plan period is given in the enclosed statement-I

(c) Overall targets of 151.54 lakh hectare has been set for creation of irrigation potential during the Tenth Five Year Plan. The State -wise details are given in the enclosed statement -II.